

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicant is submitting as an appendix hereto drawing figures 1-21 replacing informal figures 1-21 which were originally filed with the application.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-23 (cancelled).

Claim 24 (cancelled)

Claim 25 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 24 46 wherein said packing head is mounted for travel along an elongated support assembly extending lengthwise of said charging hopper.

Claim 26 (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein said at least one driver comprises at least one hydraulic packing cylinder extending lengthwise of said charging hopper.

Claim 27 (previously presented) The apparatus for claim 26 wherein said support assembly and said at least one hydraulic cylinder extend along a side portion of said charging hopper, said charging hopper being located along a lower portion of said storage container.

Claim 28 (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein a pair of said hydraulic packing cylinders is provided, each being adapted for moving the packing head in a respective one of rearward and forward directions of travel.

Claim 29 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 24 46 wherein said storage container includes wall portions contoured to assist in movement of the materials being compressed by said packing head through said ~~open end portions~~ pathways and into and within the interior of the storage container.

Claim 30 (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29 wherein said wall portions comprise a frontal contoured end section and a rear contoured end section of said storage container both shaped to facilitate said movement of the materials into and within said storage container.

Claim 31 (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 30 wherein said rear end section is hinged to provide a tailgate which can be opened to permit the contents of the storage container to be dumped.

Claim 32 (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 31 including pivotal connections for securing the compaction and handling apparatus to the chassis of a transport vehicle, and mechanisms for opening and closing said tailgate in the course of a dumping procedure.

Claim 33 (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 31 including a clean out panel mounted for pivotal movement within the storage container adjacent said frontal end section, and an actuator for pivoting said clean out panel to dislodge materials adjacent said frontal end section.

Claim 34 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 24 46 including a loading hopper mounted adjacent to and alongside said charging hopper for movement from a first lowered position to permit ready filing of the loading hopper to a second raised position above the charging hopper for dumping of materials into the charging hopper.

Claim 35 (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 34 wherein said loading hopper has a retractable side wall which moves to enlarge the capacity of the loading hopper during filling and which partly closes during movement to the second raised position.

Claim 36 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 29 34 wherein said packing head is mounted for travel along an elongated support assembly extending lengthwise of said charging hopper.

Claim 37 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 34 36 wherein said at least one driver comprises at least one hydraulic packing cylinder extending lengthwise of said charging hopper.

Claim 38 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~35~~ 37 wherein said support assembly and said at least one hydraulic cylinder extend along a side portion of said charging hopper, said charging hopper being located along a lower portion of said storage container.

Claim 39 (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein a pair of said hydraulic packing cylinders is provided, each being adapted for moving the packing head in a respective one of rearward and forward directions of travel.

Claim 40 (cancelled).

Claim 41 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~40~~ 48 wherein said loading hopper has a retractable side wall which moves to enlarge the capacity of the loading hopper during filling and which partly closes during movement to the second raised position.

Claim 42 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~40~~ 47 wherein said packing head is mounted for travel along an elongated support assembly extending lengthwise of said charging hopper.

Claim 43 (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 42 wherein said at least one driver comprises at least one hydraulic packing cylinder extending lengthwise of said charging hopper.

Claim 44 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 43 wherein said support assembly and said at least one hydraulic cylinder extend along a side portion of said charging hopper, ~~said charging hopper being located along a lower portion of said storage container.~~

Claim 45 (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 44 wherein a pair of said hydraulic packing cylinders is provided, each being adapted for moving the packing head in a respective one of rearward and forward directions of travel.

Claim 46 (new) A waste and recyclable materials compaction and handling apparatus including:

a storage container for the materials;

an elongated charging hopper defined and connected adjacent to and alongside said storage container for receiving the materials, said charging hopper including openings defining pathways leading into the interior of said storage container;

a packing head mounted for travel in both rearward and forward directions within and along said charging hopper between end portions thereof;

at least one driver connected to said packing head to effect the travel thereof in said directions along and within said charging hopper between positions adjacent said hopper end portions; and

said packing head having opposed packing faces adapted to engage the materials placed in said charging hopper such that as said packing head is made to travel along and within said charging hopper by said at least one driver, said materials are compacted within and positively forced from the charging hopper through said pathways and thence into the interior of the storage container.

Claim 47 (new) A waste and recyclable materials compaction and handling apparatus including:

a storage container for said materials;

an elongated charging hopper defined and connected adjacent to and extending alongside a lower portion of said storage container for receiving the materials, said charging hopper including openings defining pathways leading into the interior of said storage container;

a packing head mounted for travel in both rearward and forward directions within and along said charging hopper between end portions thereof;

at least one driver connected to said packing head to effect the travel thereof in said directions along and within said charging hopper between said end portions;

said packing head having opposed packing faces adapted to engage the materials placed in said charging hopper such that as said packing head is made to travel along said charging hopper by said at least one driver, said materials are compacted within and positively forced from the charging hopper through said pathways and thence into the interior of the storage container.

Claim 48 (new): The apparatus of claim 47 further including a loading hopper mounted adjacent to and alongside said charging hopper for movement from a first lowered position to permit ready filling of the loading hopper to a second raised position above the charging hopper for dumping of materials into the charging hopper.